WHITE EARTH RESERVATION BUSINESS COMMITTEE WHITE EARTH BAND OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS

Resolution No. __038-21-022

WHEREAS, the White Earth Reservation Business Committee is the duly elected governing body of the White Earth Reservation pursuant to Article VI, Section 1, of the revised constitution of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, as amended, and organized under Section 16, of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), and
 WHEREAS, the White Earth Reservation Business Committee is the duly authorized governing body of the White Earth Band, and

WHEREAS, the White Earth Reservation Business Committee established and supports the White Earth Child Care Program to assist and promote quality childcare on the White Earth Reservation and boundaries, and

WHEREAS, the White Earth Child Care Program currently was awarded additional funding called the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplement Appropriations Act (CRRSA) funds to their current CCDF grant to assist with childcare operations during the emergency declaration, and

WHEREAS, the White Earth Reservation Business Committee supports the collaboration between Administration for Children and Family (ACF) and the White Earth Child Care Program, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the White Earth Reservation Business Committee hereby approves the attached letter to the Office of Child Care Director and authorizes its Chairman to execute the letter.

/s/

Michael A. Fairbanks, Chairman

/s/

Leonard Alan Roy, Secretary/Treasurer



WHITE EARTH RESERVATION

CHAIRMAN Michael Fairbanks SECRETARY-TREASURER Leonard Alan Roy

DISTRICT I Raymond Auginaush, Sr. DISTRICT II Kathy Goodwin DISTRICT III Cheryl "Annie" Jackson

February 26, 2021

Director Office of Child Care 330 C ST SW, 4th Floor Washington, DC 20201

Dear OCC Director:

This letter describes how the White Earth Child Care Program, the CCDF Lead Agency for White Earth plans to use the Child Care and Development Funds (CCDK) awarded under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations ACT (CRRSA).

We plan to use the CRRSA funds for activities in the following categories:

Direct Child Care Services:

The Lead Agency does not plan on providing direct childcare services at this time. Our current funds have obligated funds for families who have submitted applications at this time. If families apply and do not qualify for our income CCDF guidelines, we will use funding to assist our essential workers.

Implementations of Virus Mitigation Policies and Practices

The Lead Agency plans to use CRRSA funds by providing resources, supplies and technical assistance to childcare providers to support implementation of health and safety practices and policies in line with guidance from State and local health departments and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Currently our Child Care Licensor is keeping up to date with CDC recommendations and sending all our licensed providers/centers updates on new recommendations. The Lead Agency is purchasing and providing safety supplies to providers such as face masks, cleaning supplies, disinfecting spray, and disinfecting wipes to ensure their centers are meeting health and safety requirements.

Grants or Assistance (other than subsidies) to stabilize Child Care Providers

The Lead Agency will use CRRSA funds to support the stability of the childcare sector to help childcare providers pay for increased operating expenses during the COVID-19 public health emergency. The Lead Agency has paid hazard pay to CCDF subsidy providers who are caring for children during the pandemic. This will help subsidize for providers who have chosen to remain open but not at full capacity due to CDC recommendations. Most providers needed to drop their license numbers to meet the recommendations by CDC.

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Assistance to Providers Not participating in the Subsidy System Prior to the Pandemic

The Lead Agency plans to use a portion of the funds appropriated in CRRSA to provide assistance to CCDF-eligible child care providers who aren't currently participating in the subsidy system prior to the COVID-19 public health emergency. The Lead Agency has offered grants to tribally licensed providers to help alleviate costs due to CDC recommendations of no more than 10 in a group as this has caused providers to lower their allowed number of children in a setting. The Lead Agency has given grants to providers who have had to shut down due to COVID-19 exposure. This allows providers to safely close as required and still be able to reopen without losing income.

Other

The Lead Agency plans to use a portion of the CRRSA childcare funds to supplement learning packets to children who are home during COVID-19. These children would be eligible for childcare but due to the pandemic are home with parents. The Lead Agency is working with other programs to develop packets for agencies to hand out to families affected by COVID-19.

The Lead Agency will amend our CCDF plan as a result of activities implemented under CRRSA funding not currently described in the plan, within 60 days of implementation. Please accept this letter as the White Earth Child Care Program/Early Childhood Program's request. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Jessica Jackson, Program Director at (218) 983-3285 extension 1385 or Jessica.Jackson@whiteearth-nsn.gov.

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/s/

Michael Fairbanks Chairman White Earth Nation

cc: Gena L Miller, Regional Program manager, Office of Child Care, Region V Carl Eggleston, Program Specialist, Office of Child Care, Region V